



Brigadier General Richard D. Leonard

Brigadier General Leonard graduated from The Citadel, with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Education. He later completed a Masters in Education from The Citadel and an Educational Specialist Degree from South Carolina State University. His military education includes the Signal Officer Basic and Advance Course, the Transportation Officer Advance Course, the Engineer Officer Advance Course, Civil Affairs Course, Command and General Staff College and the United States Army War College with a Masters in Strategic Studies.

Brigadier General Leonard served in a variety of positions in command and staff assignments in the U.S., Central America and Asia. Brigadier General Leonard was the commander for several Task Forces which built schools in Panama and Belize and a road along the California/Mexican border. In 2001 Brigadier General Leonard transferred to the 360th CA BDE (A), Fort Jackson, South Carolina where he deployed in 2002 to Afghanistan as the Director of Personnel for the Coalition Joint Civil Military Operations Task Force in Kabul. After graduating from the Army War College in 2007, he assumed command of the 422nd Civil Affairs Battalion, where in 2009 he and his unit supported the 25th ID and later the 3rd ID in Northern Iraq. His last duty assignment was with the 10th Mountain Division (Light) as the Director for Regional Command-South (Forward) in Kandahar City, Afghanistan, from 2010 to 2011.

After thirty-one years of service, Brigadier General Leonard retired from the Army in December 2011. He was appointed to a Colonel in the South Carolina State Guard in 2013 and promoted to Brigadier General on 7 February 2015. He currently serves as the Deputy Commander.

Brigadier General Leonard's awards and decoration include Legion of Merit, three Bronze Star Medals, Combat Action Badge, Joint Meritorious Unit Award, three Meritorious Service Medals, Joint Service Commendation Medal, six Army Commendation Medals, Joint Service Achievement Medal, three Army Achievement Medals, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, two Humanitarian Service Medals, Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Army Reserve Components Overseas Training Ribbon and NATO Medal. His State Guard awards include the Meritorious Service Medal, Service Ribbon, Military Proficiency Ribbon and the Basic Aviator Badge.

In 2010, Brigadier General Leonard was inducted into the United States Army Officer Candidate School "Hall of Fame" at Fort Benning, Georgia.

Brigadier General Leonard currently lives in Orangeburg, South Carolina, and is a school administrator for Branchville High School in Branchville, South Carolina. He is married to the former Lee Tedder and they have two sons, Nick and Zack, both who are Army veterans.

(7 Feb 2015)